



EXA'lence™ (GC America)

EXA'lence, from GC America, is advertised as a new generation of Vinyl PolyEther Silicone (VPES) impression material. EXA'lence is said to combine the advantages of both polyether and vinyl-polysiloxane silicone impression materials, resulting in excellent hydrophilicity, flow, dimensional accuracy, and high tear strength. Our laboratory evaluation confirms a minimal linear dimensional change (0.15% - 0.32%). The ADA/ANSI standard is set at no more than 1.5%. EXA'lence also demonstrated accurate detail reproduction. The setting and working times for EXA'lence both pass the standard and are close to the times reported by the manufacturer.



DECS' clinical evaluators made a total of 223 impressions with EXA'lence. Seven of the ten evaluators were prosthodontists. Our clinical evaluators typically used Aquasil (Dentsply Caulk), Reprosil® (Dentsply Caulk), Impregum™ (3M ESPE), Extrude (Kerr), Imprint™ (3M ESPE) and Take One (Kerr) impression materials in their clinics. Evaluators felt that the instructions, packaging, dispensing system, working and setting time were all acceptable or better. Unanimously, evaluators felt they could easily read the margins of their impressions. Two out of ten evaluators experienced some patients that had some objection to the taste and odor of the material. Seventy percent of evaluators rated EXA'lence excellent. There were no negative reviews of this product. All ten of the evaluators said they would purchase this product for their clinic.

Manufacturer:

GC America
3737 W. 127th Street
Alsip, IL 60803
800-323-7063
800-423-2963 (FAX)
Gca_sales@gcamerica.com

Suggested Retail Price:

\$110 for a refill pack of four 48ml cartridges

Government Price (through distributor):

\$77.99 for a refill pack of four 48ml cartridges

ADVANTAGES:

- + Readability
- + Sharp finish line detail even in a moist environment
- + More flexibility in use than a traditional polyether
- + Inherent hydrophilicity a plus, but is hard to notice clinically
- + Wonderful detail for removable prosthetics
- + Color made it easy to read
- + High tear strength but also easy to remove a full arch tray (great combination)

DISADVANTAGES:

- Manufacturer recommends a delayed pour for 60 minutes, too long if you are using an accelerated denture technique
- Taste and odor were objectionable to a few patients
- Didn't like the detail as much for fixed prosthetics

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS:

EXA'lence™ from GC America is a hybrid Vinyl PolyEther Silicone (VPES) impression material. EXA'lence was rated excellent by seventy percent of our evaluators. It has excellent surface detail reproduction, dimensional accuracy, low contact angle upon wetting (hydrophilic response), high tear strength but very flexible. EXA'lence is rated **EXCELLENT** for use in Air Force dental clinics.



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